

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS in New Hampshire



February 2002

Volume 102, Number 2

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Published by the Economic and
Labor Market Information Bureau

Employment
SECURITY

Women owned nearly one-quarter of all New Hampshire businesses in 1997

New Hampshire share of total businesses lowest in New England

Of the 115,747 firms in New Hampshire, women owned 27,265 in 1997, according to the U.S. Census Bureau (see sidebar). More than half of these firms were in Services. This is right in line with the national average. Conversely, Transportation and public utilities claimed the smallest share of women-owned businesses in the state (1.7 percent).

New Hampshire's share of total businesses owned by women (23.6 percent) was the lowest in New England. Massachusetts had the highest share of total firms owned by women (26.6 percent). This was higher than the national average of 26.0 percent.

In New England, New Hampshire had the smallest share of women-owned

The U.S. Census Bureau defines a women-owned business as one where women own 51 percent or more of the interest, claims, or rights of that business. Data on women-owned businesses is collected by the U.S. Census Bureau every five years and published in their Economic Census. Their latest publication, the 1997 Economic Census, was published in 2001. Data was compiled from all nonfarm businesses with receipts of \$1,000 or more that filed 1997 tax forms as individual proprietorships, partnerships, or any type of corporation.

firms with paid employees. These 4,205 firms represented just under 14 percent of the total 30,452 firms with paid employees in the state. Rhode Island had the highest share owned by women (15.4 percent). Nationally, women owned 16.0 percent of all firms with paid employees.

Elisabeth Picard

Women-owned Businesses in New Hampshire by Industry, 1997

Industry	All firms		Firms with paid employees			
	Firms	Sales & receipts (thousands)	Firms	Sales & receipts (thousands)	Employees (thousands)	Annual payroll
Total	27,265	\$3,112,620	4,205	\$2,662,999	33,911	\$652,953
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing	597	\$35,364	140	\$27,984	348	\$8,543
Construction	1,024	\$283,833	332	\$260,833	2,209	\$67,597
Manufacturing	1,004	\$486,349	249	\$470,277	4,121	\$131,306
Transportation and public utilities	472	\$59,353	84	\$52,953	615	\$13,729
Wholesale trade	538	\$314,370	230	\$300,852	1,359	\$41,153
Retail trade	4,373	\$871,777	1,078	\$806,405	9,084	\$115,981
Finance, insurance, real estate	2,718	\$180,975	337	\$101,139	803	\$21,261
Services	14,739	\$847,235	1,759	\$642,512	15,068	\$253,376

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. 1997 Economic Census. <www.census.gov>. Issued 9/01. Accessed 1/16/02